

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1572

Introduced by Assembly Members Fletcher and Block
(Coauthor: Senator Anderson)

February 1, 2012

An act to add Section 2555.1 to the Streets and Highways Code, relating to vehicles, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1572, as introduced, Fletcher. Service authorities for freeway emergencies: San Diego County.

Existing law authorizes a service authority for freeway emergencies to be established in any county for the purpose of funding the installation of call boxes along freeways and expressways to enable motorists in need of aid to obtain assistance. Existing law provides that a service authority may impose an annual fee of \$1 on vehicles registered in the county for this and other related purposes, which fee is collected by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

This bill, with respect to the service authority created in the County of San Diego, would provide that the \$1 fee may not be imposed or collected effective with the operative date of this bill until January 1, 2016. The bill would limit the reserves that may be held by the authority to \$4,000,000, and would require the authority to distribute any reserves in excess of that amount to cities in the County of San Diego, and to the county with respect to the unincorporated area of the county, in proportion to fees paid for purposes of the service authority in the 2010–11 fiscal year by residents of each city and the unincorporated area. The bill would require the excess reserves to be distributed by the

service authority by January 1, 2013, and would require these revenues to be used for public safety programs by the recipient jurisdictions. The bill would require the service authority to develop a plan relative to its long-term existence by January 1, 2016, to be submitted to the San Diego County City Selection Committee for approval. If the committee rejects the plan, the bill would provide for the authority to be dissolved and for the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) to become the successor authority and to assume remaining responsibility for maintaining call boxes. The bill would also require the service authority to cease marketing activities for the 511 program, and to contract with SANDAG in that regard, until a plan is approved. The bill would also limit the reserves that may be held by the authority or SANDAG as the successor authority on and after January 1, 2016, to \$4,000,000, and would require distribution of excess reserves to cities and the county for public safety purposes. The bill would authorize the authority or SANDAG to adjust this amount for inflation.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

This bill would provide that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 2555.1 is added to the Streets and
- 2 Highways Code, to read:
- 3 2555.1. (a) Notwithstanding Section 2555, commencing on
- 4 the date this section becomes operative and continuing until
- 5 January 1, 2016, no fee may be imposed by the authority created
- 6 in the County of San Diego, or collected on behalf of that authority
- 7 by the Department of Motor Vehicles pursuant to Section 9250.10
- 8 of the Vehicle Code. Fee collection may, but is not required to,
- 9 resume on January 1, 2016, consistent with this section.

1 (b) (1) The maximum in reserves that may be held by the
2 authority in the County of San Diego from fees collected prior to
3 suspension of fee collection pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be
4 four million dollars (\$4,000,000). Except as otherwise provided
5 in subdivision (c), these reserve revenues may be used solely for
6 projects of a type described in subdivision (d) of Section 2557 that
7 the authority has previously undertaken.

8 (2) Any reserves in excess of four million dollars (\$4,000,000)
9 held by the authority on the date this section becomes operative
10 shall be distributed to cities in the County of San Diego, and to
11 the county with respect to the unincorporated area of the county,
12 in proportion to fees paid pursuant to Section 2555 in the 2010–11
13 fiscal year by residents of each city and the unincorporated area.
14 The authority shall distribute the funds on or before January 1,
15 2013. The distributed funds shall be used by the recipient
16 jurisdiction solely for public safety purposes.

17 (c) The authority, commencing on the date this section becomes
18 operative, shall cease marketing activities for the 511 program.
19 The authority shall contract with the San Diego Association of
20 Governments (SANDAG) for the marketing of the 511 program.
21 The plan developed pursuant to subdivision (d) may contain a
22 recommended approach for these activities to be conducted on and
23 after the date that the plan is approved pursuant to subdivision (d).
24 The prohibition in this subdivision shall not apply on and after
25 that date.

26 (d) (1) The authority shall develop a plan relative to its
27 continued long-term existence, which shall be submitted to the
28 San Diego County City Selection Committee pursuant to paragraph
29 (2) no later than January 1, 2016. The plan, among other things,
30 shall identify the number of call boxes that will be in use and the
31 locations of call boxes with the highest and lowest call volumes.
32 The plan may identify other proposed activities consistent with
33 subdivision (d) of Section 2557.

34 (2) The plan shall be submitted to the San Diego County City
35 Selection Committee for its approval. If it rejects the authority's
36 plan, the authority shall be dissolved, and, notwithstanding Section
37 2551, SANDAG shall become the successor to the dissolved
38 service authority and assume the remaining operational
39 responsibilities for maintaining the call boxes.

1 (e) The maximum in reserves that may be held by the authority
2 or SANDAG as the successor to the authority at any time after
3 January 1, 2016, shall be four million dollars (\$4,000,000). Any
4 amount in excess of four million dollars (\$4,000,000) shall
5 thereafter be distributed, within one year of accrual of the excess,
6 to cities in the County of San Diego and to the county in the same
7 manner as specified in paragraph (2) of subdivision (b). The
8 distributed funds shall be used by the recipient jurisdiction solely
9 for public safety purposes.

10 (f) The authority or SANDAG, as appropriate, may adjust the
11 four-million-dollar (\$4,000,000) limit on reserves specified in
12 subdivisions (b) and (e) for inflation based on the California
13 Consumer Price Index.

14 SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
15 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
16 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
17 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
18 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

19 SEC. 3. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the
20 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within
21 the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into
22 immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

23 In order to provide for temporary reduction of unnecessary
24 vehicle registration fees in the County of San Diego as quickly as
25 possible, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.